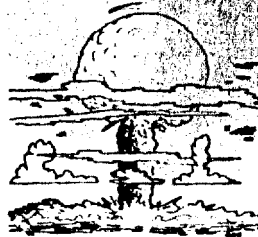


Nuclear Testing

In what is becoming an historic debate, Senator Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) said last week the possibility of detecting Soviet cheating under a present US test-ban proposal is "one chance in 1,000." And this, Dodd added, is "an optimistic estimate."

The Senator made this statement in a 20-page, fact-filled sheet sent to Adrian Fisher, Deputy Director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Dodd has been exchanging many letters with Fisher, portions of which have been published in the *Washington Post*.



Last week Dodd refuted Fisher's arguments for the present US test-ban treaty proposal point by point. He centered his fire on Fisher's contention there would be only a slight chance that the Soviets might pull off a sneak test in violation of the ban.

Dr. Carl F. Romney, Assistant Technical Director of the Air Force Technical Applications Center, estimates—said Dodd—that without muffling techniques the Soviets could easily set off a series of underground tests conducted in alluvial soil below the detection level of 3 kilotons. Romney is recognized as one of America's top seismologists. Moreover, said Dodd, tests of one kiloton or less would be vital in developing a new super weapon, the "neutron bomb," which is designed to kill troops without destroying property.

While Fisher claims that tests in outer space can be verified, Dodd points out that none other than Paul H. Nitze, Assistant Secretary of Defense, admitted to the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee last September that there is no present capability to detect tests in outer space. Dr. A. W. Schardt, Deputy Director of the Nuclear Test Detection Office, Advanced Research Projects Agency, says "our present capability is zero" for mapping such tests.

Continued Dodd in his letter to Fisher: "...whereas you seem to think that there is only a *risk* that the Soviets would endeavor to cheat, I take it as a certainty that the Soviet government, which is publicly committed to our destruction, which has violated more than a thousand treaties, ... will cheat."